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STATE

ACTION: NONE INFO: ODPS-S, RF, SOA1-E (), FILE, DDO-4, NESA,
 ODPN-N, OPA/II-2, SOA-2, USSR-4, WES/FR, WES/SA, CR/E, CTS, D/FBIS-2,
 EPS/EG-2, EUR-3, IAD/CAS-3, IAD/OSG-3, INT/FL, NE-4, NIO/NE, NIO/USSR,
 NIO/WE, OGCR-2, OSR/RA, OSR/SE, OSR/SF, ~~OSR/IF~~, PCS/INT, SE-3, (50/*)

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TOR: 302101Z MAR 80

RR RUEAIIIB
 ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH
 TUTS305
 RR RUEHC
 DE RUFNPS #0215 0872012
 ZNR UUUUU ZZH
 R 272010Z MAR 80
 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5390
 INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1961
 RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 0323
 BT
 UNCLAS PARIS 10215

E.O. 12065: N/A
 TAGS: PEPR, SHUM, AF, FR
 SUBJECT: SOVIET USE OF NAPALM AND GAS IN AFGHANISTAN

1. MICHAEL BARRY, A "SPECIAL ENVOY" OF THE PARIS-BASED INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS GAVE A ORESS CONFERENCE HERE ON MARCH 26 DURING WHICH HE CLAIMED HE HAS DROOF THAT THE SOVIETS ARE MAKING MASSIVE USE OF NAPALM AND GAS IN AFGHANISTAN. BARRY IS IDENTIFIED AS A RESEARCHER AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY WHO SPEAKS DARI AND SOME PUSHTUAND IS THE AUTHOR OF A REFERENCE WORK ON AFGHANISTAN. BARRY REPORTEDLY SPENT THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 20 IN THE PESHAWAR-CHITRAL AREAS INTERVIEWING MORE THAN 100 REFUGEES. HE IS SAID TO HAVE TAPED MORE THAN 20 HOURS OF INTERVIEWS DURING WHICH REFUEDES DESCRIBED THEIR ORDEALS. ACCORDING TO LEMONDE, BARRY DESCRIBES THREE DIFFERENT TYPES OF GAS BEING USED: ONE A TEAR GAS PRODUCING HEADACHES AND NAUSEA, THE SECOND A LAUGHING GAS PRODUCING FAINTING SOELLS, THE THIRD AN IRRITANT PROJECTED "LIKE BOILING WATER" FROM HELICOPTERS WHICH RESULTS IN SKIN BLISTERS.

2. AFP ALSO QUOTES BARRY AS SAYING HE ALSO HAS TAPED INTERVIEWS WITH PERSIAN SPEAKING REFUGEES ATTESTING TO THE MASSIVE USE OF NAPALM. HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING HE PROPOSES TO HAVE THESE TAPES TRANSLATED BY AN IRANIAN JURIST, SO THAT THEY CAN'T BE DISCLAIMED AS AMERICAN PROPAGANDA.

3. BARRY INTERVIEW IS ALSO CARRIED ON UPI WIRE AND IS FRONT PAGE STORY IN MARCH 27 INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE. IHT/UPI STORY DESCRIBES OTHER TORTURES BUT DOES NOT PICK UP ON GAS/NAPALM USE.

4. MARCH 28 EDITION OF LEMONDE (WHICH COMES OUT AFTERNOON MARCH 27) CARRIES ANOTHER REPORT OF THE BARRY PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT SINCE LAST DECEMBER SOVIETS HAVE TAKEN DIRECT CONTROL OF AFGHAN GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AT ALL LEVELS, AND THAT HE INTERVIEWED A NUMBER OF WITNESSES WHO CLAIM THAT SOVIET OFFICERS WERE PRESENT WHEN ATROCITIES WERE COMMITTED AGAINST THE CIVILIAN POPULATION.
 HARTMAN

State Dept. review completed

END OF MESSAGE

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